

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above mentioned application is hereby requested in view of the above amendments and remarks which follow.

The Examiner objected to claims 6 and 10 for informalities in the claims. In claim 6, the Examiner noted that the phrase "An crimp" is not grammatically correct. Applicants have amended this claim accordingly.

The Examiner also objected to claim 10 due to the inclusion of the terms "of a recess formed in a closure housing" making it confusing as it relates to the recess of the crimp. Applicants have amended claim 10 to delete the term "of a recess".

The Examiner rejected claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by McDonald, et al., U.S. Patent 6,899,467¹.

The Examiner indicated, amongst other things, that the portion of the crimp between the ends includes a recess on opposite sides of the portion 82. It should be noted, however, that McDonald '467 does not show a crimp band providing a tensional relief to the optical fiber, but rather a torsional restraint. In column 12, lines 25-27, McDonald indicates that "the fiber optic plug 10 advantageously protects the optical fibers 130 from the deleterious effects of torque imparted to the fiber optic cable." (Emphasis added). He further indicates in column 12, lines 31-36 that the "forces generated by torque will, in turn, be transmitted from the crimp band to the plug body via the respective engagement members, such as the key 82 carried by the crimp band and the corresponding passageway 84 defined by the plug body." (Emphasis added).

However, in order to advance prosecution Applicants have amended claim 1 to indicate that the portion of the crimp between the ends define a body portion has a dimension greater than that of the crimp tubes and which includes a recess for engagement by a closure housing, where the recess has a dimension less than that of the body portion.

No such recess is shown by McDonald as the key 82 is raised from the crimp band 62 and from the enlarged portion 86 and is used for an entirely different purpose as described above. Rather, Applicant shows the recess at 37 having a diameter less than that of the portion 39 as shown best in FIG. 2 and attached to the closure body 38 in FIG. 4.

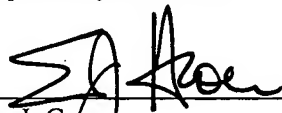
¹ Applicant wishes to point out to the Examiner that McDonald 467 is a divisional of an application resulting in U.S. 6,648,520 published April 3, 2003, as U.S. 2003/0063867.

As to claim 6, Applicants have amended the claim to indicate that the portion of the crimp between the ends includes a grooved recess extending transverse to a longitudinal direction of the hollow crimp body for engagement by a closure housing. The recessed groove 37 is shown best in FIG. 2 and attached to the closure body 38 in FIG. 4.

With respect to claims 9 and 10, Applicant believes that the rejection of claim 9, given that the claim is dependent on any of claims 1-8, is now allowable in light of the amendments to claims 1 and 6. As it relates to claim 10, Applicant has included the limitation that the closure housing engages the recess so as to prevent relative longitudinal movement between the crimp and the closure housing.

For all of the above mentioned amendments and remarks, Applicants believe that claims 1-10 are now in condition for allowance and respectfully request early passage thereof.

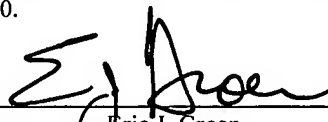
Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 16, 2010.



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